Stein, by his repeated expeditions in Chinese Turkestan, Central Asia and Western China, has not only widened geographical knowledge but also revealed the treasures and the records of a lost civilisation. He has only one rival—Sven Hedin, the Swedish explorer of the Gobi Desert and discoverer of the Hedin Mountains; the latter is, as it happens, a descendant of Aaron Isak, the founder of the Jewish community in Sweden.

Other great Jewish explorers of the nineteenth century include Arminius Vambery (Bamberger), a phenomenal linguist, who was the first European to traverse the heart of unknown Persia, living there for over two years disguised as a native Muslim; Nathaniel Wallich, Asiatic botanist and explorer of Assam; the converts Joseph Wolff and Henry Aaron Stern, who, as missionaries among the Jews, explored Bokhara and Abyssinia respectively; Samuel Sandberg, pioneer traveller in Thibet; Angelo Castelbolognesi, who explored the Sudan; Eduard Foa, who discovered the sources of the Zambesi; Louis Binger, the first white man to cross the watershed between Senegal and Timbuctoo; Hermann Burchardt, who perished in the Arabian desert in 1909; Siegfried Langer, murdered in the Yemen in 1882; Vladimir Jochelson and L. Sternberg, who explored northern Siberia; Isaac Israel Heyes, who led an expedition to Greenland in I860, where it joined up with another under the direction of August Sonntag; and many subordinate members of

enterprises of the same nature in every quarter of the globe.

The same spirit which impelled Jews towards new spheres of economic activity gave them in fact the urge to act as pioneers of European enquiry in unexplored regions of the world; for even the Ghetto was unable to quench that spirit of adventure which is to be found in all men alike.